

# Case of the Buried Treasure

*Ray Stedman*

## I. Introduction.

A. Text: Matthew 13:44.

B. The kingdom of heaven is God's work among men.

## II. The parable of the hidden treasure.

A. These parables are usually interpreted with Christ being the hidden treasure, and He is the pearl of great price.

B. However, this is false—salvation is never offered to us as something that we are to buy.

C. The secret of the treasure is Israel. (Psalm 135:4)

1. God set aside the nation of Israel in order that they might be a kind of showcase to the nations. (Deuteronomy)

2. In the partial illustration of Israel God was showing what He could do with any nation.

3. The secret to world peace is wrapped up in Israel returning to right relationship with God.

4. The nation rejected Israel.

D. The man gave all he had—this brings to light the mystery of the cross. (Philippians 2)

1. The life of the land is preserved by righteousness.

2. God came and bought the whole field. (Romans 9-11)

3. When the Jews find the secret of their life again in Jesus, the whole earth will blossom.

4. Israel even in rejection and failure is a visible example to all mankind of the way God deals with humanity.

### Application questions:

1. Why does the speaker reject the idea that the hidden treasure represents Christ?

---

---

2. What is the hidden treasure according to the speaker and what international significance does this have?

---

---

3. How does the man giving picture the cross and what is its importance to the treasure?

---

---